

IN THE CLAIMS

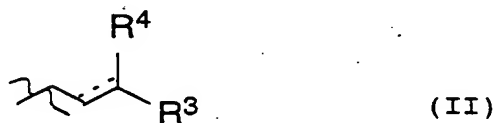
Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing an acetylene alcohol ~~alcohols~~ of the general formula I:



wherein ~~where~~

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> may be the same or different, and are each independently a saturated or a mono- or polyunsaturated C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl, aryl, cycloalkylalkyl or cycloalkyl radical, each of which may optionally be substituted, or a group of the general formula (II):



wherein ~~where~~

R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> may be the same or different, and are each independently hydrogen or a saturated or a mono- or polyunsaturated C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl, aryl, cycloalkylalkyl or cycloalkyl radical, each of which may optionally be substituted, and the dashed line may represent an additional double bond,

said process comprising ~~by~~ monoethynylating a ketone of the general formula

R<sup>1</sup>-CO-R<sup>2</sup> by

(a) reacting lithium with a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-alkyl halide



- (b) feeding in acetylene gas
- (c) adding the ketone.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction of lithium with the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-alkyl halide is carried out in the presence of catalytic amounts of naphthalene or 4,4'-di-tert-butylbiphenyl.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The A process as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the ketone ~~used~~ is selected from the group consisting of acetone, methyl vinyl ketone,  $\beta$ -ionone, tetrahydrogeranylacetone, 6-methylheptanone, hexahydrofarnesylacetone, diethyl ketone, methyl ethyl ketone, cyclohexanone, methyl t-butyl ketone, pseudoionone, methylhexenone and H-geranylacetone.

Claim 4 (New): The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the ketone is selected from the group consisting of acetone, methyl vinyl ketone,  $\beta$ -ionone, tetrahydrogeranylacetone, 6-methylheptanone, hexahydrofarnesylacetone, diethyl ketone, methyl ethyl ketone, cyclohexanone, methyl t-butyl ketone, pseudoionone, methylhexenone and H-geranylacetone.